## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
MASAMICHI AKASHI	:	Examiner: P. Huntsinger
Application No.: 10/087,816	:	Group Art Unit: 2625
Application 10 10/06/,010	:	
Filed: March 5, 2002	)	
For: IMAGE PROCESSING	)	
APPARATUS AND COMMUNICATING METHOI	:	
IN IMAGE PROCESSING	) :	
APPARATUS	)	October 3, 2006
Mail Stop RCE		
Commissioner for Patents		

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, a Request for Continued Examination being filed concurrently herewith, and in response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows: